

SECRET

SOVIET EXHIBITION AT THE INTERNATIONAL FAIR IN MONTREAL, QUE.

1. The International Trade Fair in Montreal, Que. took place at the Show Mart, Barry Street and lasted from 6-15 October, 1961. The opening took place in the evening October 5, but only officials and guests upon special invitations were admitted. The public was barred from this event. Visiting hours for the public 1-10.30 PM.
2. With some other European countries the Soviet Union participated in the Fair, taking up 1/3 of the whole show grounds. In spite of previous announcements by Soviet officials, particularly by Pyotr BRIGADNOV, the director of the Soviet Exhibition, the Soviet Union was represented as one whole and no Soviet Republics, including Ukraine, had stands or space of their own. The only distinction made for Ukrainians was a stand within the Soviet Exhibition, arranged by the Communist -progressive firm "Ukrainska Knyha" from Toronto. A large sign with that inscription hung over the stand and representatives of that firm from Toronto were selling various items of Ukrainian art, books and candy. Soviet Ukrainian publications were exhibited within the "Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga" stand and other items of Ukrainian production were mixed with other Soviet items.
3. According to information given to CBC by F.M.Chubarov, deputy director of the Soviet Exhibition 17 members of the Soviet staff were Ukrainians, 10 of other non-Russian nationalities and the rest of the total number of 55 Russians. However, in a conversation with Alexander KUZMYCH it was learned that Ukrainians constituted only "7 or maybe 8" staff members and this information was closer to the truth, because approximately so many people have been identified as Ukrainians by our people during conversations. It could not have been established whether there were other non-Russian nationalities represented, because nobody of the Soviet staff members identified himself as such. The majority of the Soviet staff, including Ukrainians, were relatively young people in the age range of 30-40 years. Most of the Ukrainians were professional people (engineers and technicians) with the exception of 2 (ZELENSKY & BOLBOTENKO), WHO WERE

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 382B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

in other than technical activities and served as interpreters and "overseers". All of the Ukrainians who were identified as such, hailed from Eastern Ukraine, though one of them (Zelensky) was a permanent resident of Lviv, all of them spoke excellent Ukrainian and were willing and even in some cases eager to identify themselves as Ukrainians to the visitors. Most of them were interested in the life of the Ukrainian emigration in Canada. In conversations they showed even a kind of pride of their Ukrainian heritage.

4. The whole Soviet group, including the Ukrainians lived in Hotel LaSalle, Drummond Street. Outside the hotel and outside the Exhibition grounds they always walked in groups of at least 2. Only on one occasion was Zelensky walking alone in the street close to Show Mart and on another occasion a Russian staff member was walking alone in the street close to the hotel. It was established on one occasion that groups were even taken for lunch by individuals who, probably had authority to take groups out (Bolbotenko). All Ukrainians declined propositions for private meetings or conversations, except for one occasion with ZELENSKY\*BOLBOTENKO. After their return to the hotel after 11 PM the Soviets stayed inside. On one occasion a group of 3, with Bolbotenko in it, was observed at 12 midnight in the ~~street~~ vicinity of the LaSalle hotel.
5. In addition to myself, our group consisted of 3 men. 2 from Toronto, who covered the Fair for 3 days and one from Montreal who was there all the time. Arrangements have been made to have 2 more people from Toronto to cover the Fair for the additional time, while the former 2 have left for home, but for some personal reasons these men did not come to Montreal. Experience shows that, after visiting the Fair and involving in conversations a man becomes conspicuous and should be withdrawn. The man from Montreal in his official capacity was made conspicuous intentionally to focus the attention of all staff members.

6. Literature was not distributed. To offer it to individual Ukrainians within the Show Mart grounds , with all the attention of "overseers could provoke an incident and therefore was ~~infeas~~ not feasible. To do it clandestinely by putting it in some places was also impracticable, because it would require some skill to do it in a relatively small place with many staff members all time around and after noticing it, they could remove it immediately, and in addition , after the incident with the Red Army chorus and arrests made by Canadian authorities this would look as another provocation with little or no positive result for us.
7. Our group was thoroughly briefed before they started on the job. Afterwords periodical meetings for debriefing were held in the hotel room.
7. During the meeting ZELENSKY\*BOLBOTENKO- RR no tailing was observed at the meeting place or in the restaurant. At one point there was nobody left in the restaurant except the conversing group at one table and myself at a distant table.